

OFFICIAL DISPATCH

VIA: SPECIFY AIR OR SEA POUCH

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DATE: 15 September 1947

TO : Chief of Station

FROM : ☒ /Carryall

SUBJECT: Operational Memorandum on Security Problems and other
Operational Matters

REF :

ARAD, Zolt

1. The kind of work that undersigned is doing now requires a basic clarification of operational and security problems involved. Therefore these problems will be explained frankly, as it is believed that certain changes are necessary to make the work more efficient.

2. To get political intelligence and build up long-range contacts for later possible projects for peacetime or wartime use, a perfect cover is needed. This does not mean, in my opinion, hiding away from the surface of the world, but a justification of the existence of the intelligence officer without making him open to suspicion as to the organization with whom he is doing intelligence. No cover is good for this purpose if it does not give the greatest possible freedom of movement to contact people. Possible new agents cannot always be found out through already-existing agents for fear of jeopardizing the new agent's security and the security and secrecy of any new operation. Furthermore, it would run into the danger of false confirmation.

3. Any cover is good which justifies moving around and the interest of the intelligence officer in Germany. Therefore, as long as there is military occupation, in my opinion there is no difference between a military and a civilian cover as far as good security is concerned. Germans and enemy agencies are fully aware of the occupation, so nobody is suspected for the simple reason that the intelligence officer belongs to a military outfit. It is not enough for the case officer to have a room or a villa where he is billeted, because this does not justify his existence. His existence is justified only by an office where he can be contacted openly and to which he can refer is questioned. The present cover of a Resettlement Survey Detachment in Munich for my purposes is

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becoming most embarrassing and questionable. First of all, this Resettlement Survey Detachment has no office. The word "Resettlement" does not justify the interest in many such questions as would be of interest to this organization.

4. I have been trying to use my personal interest as a cover, which up to a certain limit was all right. My personal interest was justified by the fact that I was for several years publisher and editor of three papers, reviews in Hungary which dealt with political, cultural, economic and philosophical questions from a Catholic point of view, but since I cannot establish a contact at present, from my justified personal interest, to such American Catholic circles in which the Germans would be interested, my personal cover is not good.

5. Germans, and especially members of the Bayrische Staatskanzlei and former members of the German Foreign Office now holding important positions, are beginning to be jealous of their growing independence and would like to treat Americans like any other "foreigners" from whom they, Germans or Bavarians, must get as much political or any other profit as possible. (This is mostly a consequence, in my opinion, of the growing French activity in Germany.)

6. German circles are becoming more and more suspicious of such Germans as have some closer, even friendly, contact with Americans, if others of the circle are not included. This is first of all envy, because the man who has closer contact may have more political support or may obtain food or other services. The times are over when it was a patriotic, anti-Nazi duty to give information to Americans. Nobody in present-day Bavaria could openly do that without being stamped as a traitor to the National German or Bavarian cause.

7. There is a great difference, in my opinion, between the actual field workers in this organization, both in CE and FR, and those who are directing intelligence and generally do not contact agents or other people for intelligence purposes. The first group has to be, in my opinion, completely separated from the second group, and the contact between them carefully done. For the second group it seems to me that there is no security threat in seeing as many people as possible if the cover is good, since attempting to hide anything arouses suspicion and interest. It is better to have a normal, not exaggerated, social life according to the justified cover occupation or job of the intelligence officer, because in such a way it is more difficult to find out who is an informant, an agent, and who is not.

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8. These suggestions are written after 3½ years of intelligence work during war and peacetime in different countries and dealing with agents of different nationalities, and after twenty years' experience as a political journalist who, first for professional reasons, had to conceal from competition his informants and as a foreign correspondent who had to conceal his contacts in the country where he was working, for obvious reasons. From the attached agent descriptions and operational reports which will be added more practical reasons will be seen

9. At this time I must mention one case which I feel is a definite threat to my security. In June of this year I met one Professor Glum, former professor at the Berlin University, who was working at OMGUS, Berlin, for educational matters; later became a member of the Bayrische Staatskanzlei. Glum, a former protestant, became Catholic about two years ago and is entirely accepted by the Bavarians. Sharp, interesting man, with whom I intended to do business. We had a discussion, together with others, in an informal social group, and I loaned a book to Professor Glum. Glum was the man who wanted to know my identity, and since he had excellent connections up to General Mueller's and Mr. Murphy's offices, in my opinion he was justified in asking this question. Since he wanted a complete answer and did not want to arouse suspicion as to why he was asking for information about an American, he formulated his inquiry in the following way: "Is this man a Soviet agent or an American agent?". The answer which was given to Professor Glum in Berlin and in Munich was as follows: "The man is OK, he is not a Soviet agent, he is a small-scale American informant, not an American citizen." I have to emphasize that I am not hurt because I was called a small-scale informant, but it definitely can ruin much of my work and possibilities because everything was revealed. As a matter of fact, as long as this is not corrected somehow, I cannot see Glum and must avoid even circles where he and his associates are possible visitors. A way of correction would be for the same people who made the above statement to call Glum again and tell him my correct name, which could be the justification for calling, and tell him there was a mistake and the man is a bona fide War Department employee.

10. This case has been quoted only to show how important it is for everybody to have a justified open cover, because in such a case anybody questioned can give an inconspicuous direct answer. I feel that I am on such traces and in such channels for the intelligence purpose which was assigned to me - that by working carefully I will be able to build up those contacts which are required; but may I suggest that these problems be considered and discussed.

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11. It is absolutely necessary for an intelligence officer to remain in contact with life in a normal way. I cannot at present maintain normal contacts with people whose circles sooner or later will become (or are already) important for my work. I have normal ways to see the Cardinal Faulhaber in Munich, who wrote for my papers 13 years ago; I could even invite him. The same is true for any other ecclesiastical circle. I have normal entree to any writer in Germany through my already-existing contacts; I can establish contact in the same way to any journalist, columnist, author, actor, actress, broadcasting men. My friendships allow me to see professors of universities, politicians in any part of Germany. At this time I am restricted to operate, I have to play hiding, which is absolutely unnecessary. If a secret agent allows his secrecy to be felt he is blown. If and when I'll have such a cover which fits my normal life, my operations will become more efficient. This is emphasized for two reasons: for the efficiency of the work and for the normalcy of the operation in peacetime which is important for the intelligence officer's mind too.

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